

- Xyleborus mascarensis* Eichh., Minas Gereas, Pirapora 11.-13.XI.1919; Minas Gereas, Lassance, 9.-19.XI.1919; Minas Gereas, Bello Horizonte, 1.-6.XI.1919; Matto Grosso, Corumba, 11.-22.XII.1919; Matto Grosso, Itapura, 6., 8., 9.XII.1919, all R. G. Harris.
- Xyleborus torquatus* Eichh., Porto Velho, 23.IX.1948, C. B. Beal; Fernando de Noronha Island, V.1958, M. Alvarenga.
- Platypus dejeani* Chap., Minas Gereas, Pirapora, 11.-13.XI.1919; Corumba, Urucum, 28.-29.XII.1919, R. G. Harris; Porto Velho, 23.IX.1948, C. B. Beal.
- Platypus ratzeburgi* Chap., Minas Gereas, Lassance, 9.-19.XI.1919; Minas Gereas, Pirapora, 11.-13.XI.1919, R. G. Harris.
- Teserocerus dewalkei* Chap., Minas Gereas, Lassance, 9.-19.XI.1919, R. G. Harris.

## RESTRICTION OF THE GENUS *LYTTA* FABRICIUS (MELOIDAE)

By RICHARD B. SELANDER<sup>1</sup>

In the course of a study of the classification of the genus *Lytta* it has become necessary to restrict the limits of the genus by removing from it four Neotropical species. In the present article new generic categories in the tribe Lyttini are proposed for the reception of these species.

All North American species currently assigned to *Lytta* may be retained in the genus with the exception of *sanguineoguttata* Haag-Rutenberg. In South America Kaszab's (1959, Acta Zool. Acad. Sci. Hungaricae, vol. 4, p. 111) recent transfer of seven species from *Lytta* to the genus *Acrolytta* Kaszab leaves a total of four species in the genus *Lytta*: *abbreviata* Klug, *inflaticeps* Beauregard, *philippi* Reed, and *neivai* Denier. The first three of these are definitely not congeneric with the type of *Lytta* (*vesicatoria* (Linnaeus)). The species *neivai*, on the basis of its description (Denier, 1940, Rev. Ent., vol. 11, pp. 799-800), is very doubtfully a true member of the genus *Lytta*, but I am unable to assign it to another genus at this time.

I want to express my appreciation to Hugh B. Leech, California Academy of Sciences, and Christine M. F. von Hayek, British Museum (Natural History), for the loan of specimens of South American Lyttini from their respective institutions. Dr. von Hayek also assisted me by providing drawings of the type specimen of *Lytta fissiceps*.

### Genus **PANICULOLYTTA**, NEW GENUS

Body unusually elongate. Antennae long, heavy, more or less filiform; segment I globose; male segments IV to VII incrassate and greatly lengthened. Pronotum elongate, campanuliform. Elytra not shortened; surface rugose. Wings fully developed. Mesepisterna meeting broadly on midline of body; marginal area wide. Legs unusually

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long, slender. Male trochanters each with a heavy tuft of stiff setae. Each tibia with two spurs. Hind tibial spurs flattened, excavate behind; outer spur thicker. First segment of male middle tarsi with a heavy tubercle at base extending ventrad at a right angle to segment. Tarsal claws cleft to base; blades subequal, smooth. Male pygidium with an apically dilated median process. Male genitalia with gonostyli slender, tapered, subglabrous (a few minute setae ventrally), lacking mesal hooks; aedeagus lacking ventral hooks.

Type: *Lytta sanguineoguttata* Haag-Rutenberg.

Remarks: The precise relationships of this genus are not apparent. However, the genus does seem to have more characters in common with the genus *Lytta* than with any of the other genera of Lyttini represented in the New World. It is most readily distinguished from other lyttines by its elongate form and the sexual modifications of the male.

A redescription of the type species follows.

### ***Paniculolytta sanguineoguttata* (Haag-Rutenberg)**

*Lytta sanguineoguttata* Haag-Rutenberg, 1880, Berliner Ent. Zeitschr., p. 40.

*Cantharis sanguineoguttata*, Champion, 1892, Biol. Centrali-Americana, Coleoptera, vol. 4, pt. 2, p. 449, pl. 20, fig. 26.

Dark metallic green, blue, or violaceous. Pronotum with a large orange area on each side, or with these areas reduced to small spots or entirely absent. Head with a very small orange frontal spot at center. Wings light brown. Pubescence pale on at least under surface of body and legs. Length: 7—24 mm.

Length of elytra nearly or fully three and one-third times greatest width (near humeri). Head nearly one-third longer than wide, widest (except at eyes) just above eyes; vertex large; sides evenly rounded and convergent from eyes to top of vertex, which is deeply notched; surface smooth, shiny, densely micropunctate, finely, very sparsely punctate, subglabrous; few setae present short, stiff; a distinct oblique swelling on each side above antennal sockets, the area between depressed; lower margin of frontal area strongly declivous. Pronotum one-fifth to one-fourth longer than wide; disk flattened before middle, impressed medianly behind; basal margin reflexed; surface as on vertex except disk nearly impunctate. Scutellum narrow, blunt. Elytra finely, weakly rugose, shiny, very finely, moderately densely punctate, essentially glabrous. Middle tibiae bowed. Tarsal pads well developed, dense, undivided. Outer hind tibial spur at most twice as wide as inner spur.

*Male*: Antennae (fig. 1) extending five segments beyond base of pronotum; segment II very short; III normal, shorter than I; IV to VII four-fifths to twice as long as III; VIII to X progressively shorter and narrower, VIII being about two-thirds as long as VII. Setal tufts of fore and middle trochanters at middle ventrally, those of hind trochanters at basal angle ventrally (fig. 10); antero-ventral face of trochanters flattened, clothed with short, stiff setae. Fore and middle tarsal pads denser and more compact than in female. Fifth abdominal sternum truncate. Emargination of sixth sternum (fig. 8)



deeply triangular; sternum deeply, broadly impressed behind middle, the sides forming a pair of broad, concave lobes; edge of lobes densely pubescent; impressed area glabrous. Pygidium (fig. 7) deeply, roundly emarginate on each side, leaving a median process which is dilated apically; surface of pygidium nearly glabrous. Genitalia as in figure 9; gonostyli widely separated basally, divergent and turned ventrad at apex; dorsal sclerite of aedeagus elongate, triangular in dorsal view, with each basal angle of triangle produced anteriorly as a lamella; lateral flanges of gonopore densely spiculate internally.

*Female*: Antennae with segments IV to X each about as long as I, becoming progressively slightly wider. In two of the three females examined from four to eight of the setae of the middle and hind trochanters are clumped more or less closely in the position occupied by the setal tufts in the male. Fifth abdominal sternum entire. Sixth sternum entire, strongly cupped apically. Pygidium not modified.

Type Locality: Guatemala

Geographic Distribution: Mountains of southern Guatemala.

Seasonal Distribution: The only recorded collection date is September 22.

Records: GUATEMALA: Country label only, 3 (including lectotype); Calderas, 1; Chimaltenango, 2; Quezaltenango, September, 1; Tepan [Tecpán], 3.

Remarks: There are orange markings on the pronotum of three of the ten specimens I have examined. The trochanteral tufts of setae in the male were mistaken for spines by Champion, who also overlooked their presence on the middle legs.

I hereby designate a male in the Zoologische Staatssammlung at Munich (Haag-Rutenberg collection) labeled "Guatemal[a], Deyrolle" as lectotype of this species.

### Genus **EPISPASTA**, NEW GENUS

Moderate-sized, entirely black beetles. Head and pronotum clothed with very short dark setae; abdominal setae longer; elytra glabrous. Head quadrate, lacking a pale frontal spot or bulge; surface coarsely, densely punctate. Antennae (fig. 2) rather short, three-fourths longer than fore tibia, slender, subfiliform, moderately compressed; distal segments slightly longer and wider than basal ones; male intermediate segments not incrassate. Eyes large, bulging. Pronotum subcampanuliform, quadrate; sides parallel for basal three-fifths, then rounded and convergent; disk convex, even, lacking calluses; surface as on head. Elytra not appreciably shortened, very finely, densely punctate, obsolescently rugose. Wings fully developed. Mesepisterna meeting broadly on midline of body; marginal area wide. Legs long, slender, not specially modified in male. Middle tibiae not bowed. Each tibia with two spurs. Outer hind tibial spur thickened, very obliquely truncate; inner spur slender, spiniform. Tarsal claws cleft to base; blades slender, subequal, smooth. Male sixth abdominal sternum shallowly, obtusely emarginate, not cupped, lacking membranous area. Female sixth sternum entire. Pygidium not produced. Male genitalia (fig. 6) with gonostyli robust, tapered apically to an acute apex; a linear membranous area on each gonostylus latero-dorsally for apical half from which arises a series of long setae; aedeagus heavy with a single ventral hook and an evenly arcuate dorsal one.

Type: *Lytta abbreviata* Klug.

Remarks: I have examined six specimens of *abbreviata*, including a male that was compared with the type by Haag-Rutenberg. In one of the males the abdomen extends two terga beyond the end of the elytra, but in the remainder of the specimens it is completely covered by them. The species has the general facies of a species of *Epicauta*, but it lacks the sericeous patch of the fore femur characteristic of that genus.

The genus *Epispasta* may be readily distinguished from other genera of South American Lyttini by its coarsely and densely punctate head and pronotum, finely punctate, nearly smooth elytra, and the complete lack of male sexual modifications of the antennae and legs.

### Genus MEGALYTТА, NEW GENUS

Large beetles with head, sides of pronotum, and basal part of elytra orange, rest of body and legs black. Body surface densely pilose throughout; pubescence erect on upper surface, subrecumbent on under surface. Head triangular, deeply longitudinally impressed on front between eyes; vertex tumid; surface finely, densely punctate. Antennae (fig. 3) short, one-half longer than fore tibia, moderately compressed; segment I globose; II very short, half as long as III; III and IV more or less cylindrical; rest moniliform; III to X subequal in length. Pronotum subcircular in outline; disk impressed and declivous for apical half, convex for basal half with a broad median impression; calluses absent; surface as on head. Scutellum very elongate. Elytra not shortened, finely rugose-punctate; pubescence (except basally) shorter than on head and pronotum. Wings fully developed. Mesepisterna meeting broadly on midline of body; marginal area wide. Legs moderately long. Middle tibiae bowed. Each tibia with two spurs. Outer hind tibial spur thickened, obliquely truncate; inner spur slender, flattened, sticklike. Tarsal claws cleft to base; blades subequal, smooth. Under surface of body with pubescence shiny pale yellow on second to fourth abdominal sterna, black elsewhere, longer than on upper surface. Male sixth abdominal sternum (fig. 5) deeply, roundly emarginate. Female sixth sternum shallowly emarginate, with a median impression on hand margin. Male genitalia with gonostyli moderately heavy, each tapered to a point which is turned lateroventrad, each with a large, longitudinal lightly sclerotized area dorsally; aedeagus with a single ventral hook which is not recurved; dorsal hook small, sharply recurved.

Type: *Cantharis inflaticeps* Beauregard.

Remarks: This genus is distinguished from other New World Lyttini by the form of the head and antennae, the general pilosity of the body, and the color pattern. I have not examined a male of the type species, the description of male characters given above being based on drawings of the antennae and genitalia of the type specimen of *Lytta fissiceps* prepared for me by Christine M. F. von Hayek in the British Museum (Natural History). Unfortunately, the gonocoxal plate and the basal half of the aedeagus in this specimen have been destroyed by demestid larvae.

*Megalytta inflaticeps* has as synonyms *Lytta fissiceps* Haag-Rutenberg and *L. adonis* Pic. The name *inflaticeps* was proposed by Beauregard (1889,



Bull. Soc. Ent. France, p. ccxii) as a replacement for *fissiceps* Haag-Rutenberg (1880), which became a junior homonym of *Eupompha fissiceps* LeConte (1858) by Beaugard's citation of both names under the generic name *Cantharis* (see also Beaugard, 1890, Les insectes vésicants, p. 494). Unfortunately, subsequent authors have persistently failed to recognize the validity of Beaugard's name.

### Genus **DICTYOLYTTA**, NEW GENUS

Large black beetles with coarsely reticulate elytra and fully developed wings. A large, smooth, strongly swollen orange blister on front of head. Antennae short, one-third longer than fore tibia, compressed; segments filiform, closely set; IV to XI progressively narrower. Pronotum wider than long; sides rounded; disk with a strong, transverse depression on middle half. Elytra not shortened; surface coarsely strongly reticulate. Wings fully developed. Mesepisterna widely separated on midline of body; marginal area narrow. Legs long, very slender, strongly compressed. Fore tibiae with inner side very densely lined with pale, sericeous pubescence; middle and hind tibiae with a thinner, less dense line of black pubescence. Middle tibiae straight, not bowed. Each tibia with two spurs. Hind tibial spurs slender, subequal, flattened behind. Tarsal claws cleft to base; blades subequal, smooth. Male sixth abdominal sternum entire; apex cupped, membranous. Male genitalia with gonostyli moderately slender, straight, pointed, largely membranous except fused basal part, clothed with short, stiff setae subapically, aedeagus straight, slender, with two well-developed ventral hooks; dorsal hook small, slender.

Type: *Cantharis philippi* Reed.

Remarks: *Dictyolytta* is easily recognized as its type is the only winged South American species of Meloidae with reticulate elytra. A redescription of the type species follows.

#### **Dictyolytta philippi** (Reed)

*Cantharis* (?) *philippii* Reed, 1873, Ent. Month. Mag., vol. 9, p. 208.

*Cantharis frontalis* Fairmaire, 1873, Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Genova, vol. 4, p. 534.

*Cantharis philippi*, Fairmaire, 1876, Ann. Soc. Ent. France, ser. 5, vol. 6, p. 385.

*Lytta philippi*, Denier, 1935, Rev. Argentina Ent., vol. 1, p. 23; 1940, Rev. Ent., vol. 11, p. 802.

Black. Large frontal spot bright orange. Elytra with an ill-defined piceous area covering base and extending apicad to beyond middle along sutural third of each elytron. Length: 18—31 mm.

Head subtriangular, with prominent, well-rounded tempora; surface bumpy, wrinkled; vertex moderately coarsely, deeply, rather sparsely punctate; pubescence short, under

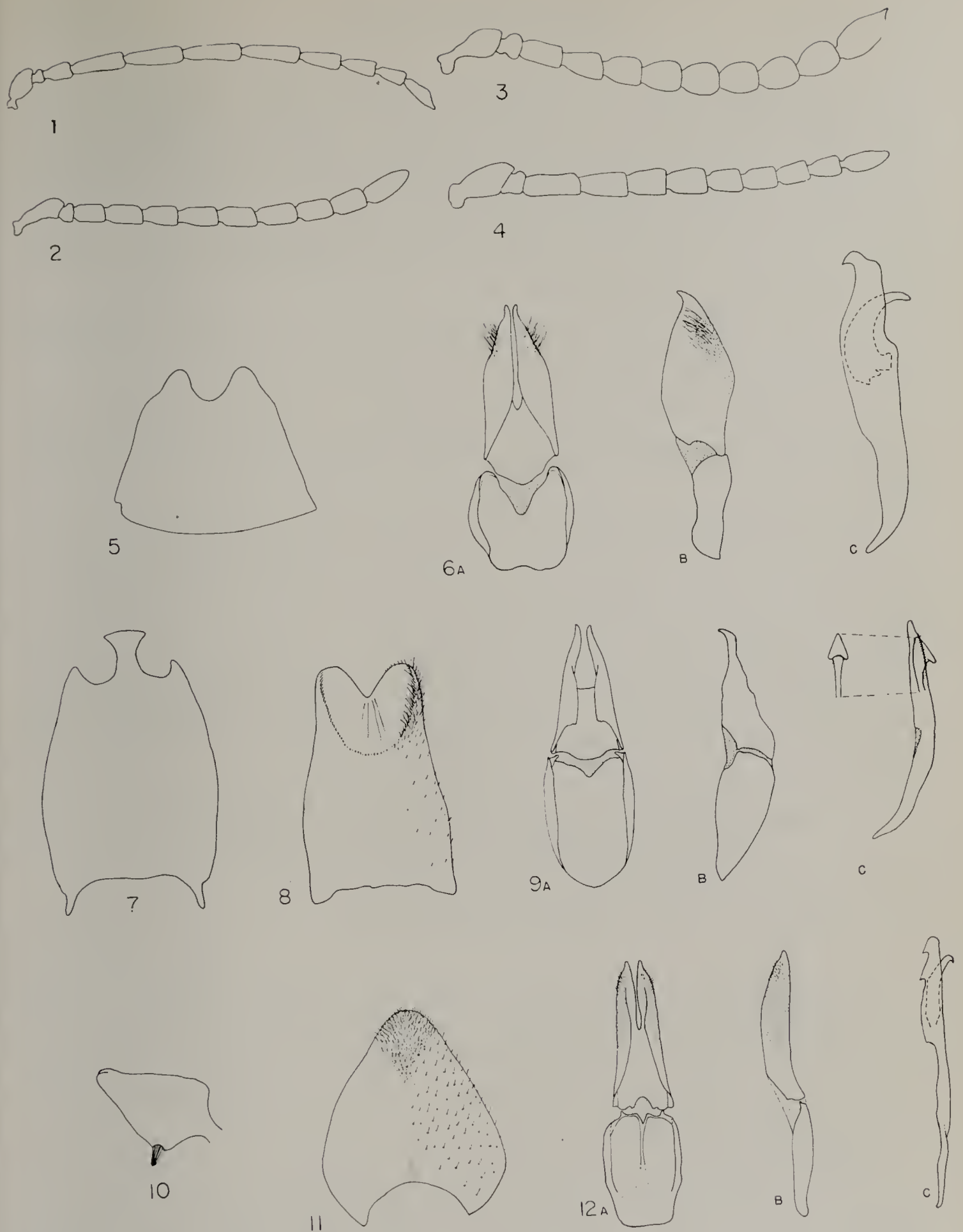


FIG. 1. *Paniculolytta sanguineoguttata*, male antenna. FIG. 2. *Epispasta abbreviata*, male antenna. FIG. 3. *Megalytta inflaticeps*, female antenna. FIG. 4. *Dictyolytta philippi*, male antenna. FIG. 5. *Megalytta inflaticeps*, male sixth abdominal sternum. FIG. 6. *Epispasta abbreviata*, male genitalia: a, gonoforceps, ventral view; b, same, lateral view; c, aedeagus, lateral view. FIG. 7. *Paniculolytta sanguineoguttata*, male pygidium. FIG. 8. Same, male sixth abdominal sternum. FIG. 9. Same, male genitalia; parts and views as in figure 6. FIG. 10. Same, male right hind trochanter. FIG. 11. *Dictyolytta philippi*, male sixth abdominal sternum. FIG. 12. Same, male genitalia; parts and views as in figures 6 and 9.

side of head densely punctate, hairy. Pronotum extremely rough, wrinkled, with deep impressions; surface smooth, very finely, very sparsely punctate on disk; setae as on vertex. Elytral surface smooth, impunctate, glabrous; reticulations strongly marked; cells irregular in form and size. Under surface of thorax densely pubescent, of abdomen more sparsely pubescent. Tarsal pads dense, very narrow.

Male: Antennae as in figure 4, reaching a little beyond middle of pronotum; segments except I very densely pubescent, dull. All tarsal pads pale. Sixth abdominal sternum as in figure 11. Genitalia as in figure 12.

Female: Antennae as in male but slightly shorter. Pad of first and second segments of middle tarsi and first segment of hind tarsi black. Sixth abdominal sternum truncate.

Type Locality: Of *philippi*, North Chil . Of *frontalis*, Chil .

Geographic Distribution: Atacama and Coquimbo provinces, northern Chil .

Seasonal Distribution: November 4 to January.

Records: CHIL : *Atacama*: Chanaral, December, January, 4.  
*Coquimbo*: Condoriaco, November, 6.

Remarks: The above description is based on specimens in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences (E. P. Reed collection). The present location of the types of *philippi* and *frontalis* is unknown to me.

## THE APION SUBGENUS PERAPION WAGNER IN NORTH AMERICA (CURCULIONIDAE)

By D. G. KISSINGER <sup>1</sup>

The problem of determining the relationship of the species of *Apion* occurring in the New World to the various subgenera of *Apion* founded on European species is no small task. Recently I have found that the *Apion punctinasum* group of Kissinger (1959) can be assigned to the subgenus *Perapion* Wagner.

The general appearance of the two groups is very similar: body generally elongate; prothorax more or less subcylindrical with the apex not much smaller than the base; and the beak rather short, stout, and subcylindrical and hardly expanded at the insertion of the antennae. The fundamental character these two groups have in common is the fact that the middle coxae are not separated by the mesosternum. This condition is known to occur also in four groups of New World *Apion* (Kissinger, 1959), the Palearctic subgenus *Phrissotrichium* Schilsky, and the Ethiopian subgenus *Aplemonus* Schoenherr.

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